



AF#  
01

500.38900X00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Kazuo SUGAI et al.

Serial No.: 09/622,484

Filed: January 2, 2001

For: NETWORK FORWARDING DEVICE AND NETWORK NEXT-HOP SEARCH METHOD

Group: 2143

Examiner: M. Kianersi

**RECEIVED**

AUG 11 2004

Technology Center 2100

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL - EXPEDITED  
PROCEDURE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**

**MS AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 9, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 12, 2004, the period for reply thereto being extended three months by the attached Petition for Extension of Time to expire August 12, 2004, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2.

**Remarks** are included following the amendments.